Hurdles to get treatment in AIIMS

t870. SHRI BANWARI LAL KANCHHAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether common people have to face a lot of problems in getting treatment at AIIMS and other Government hospitals;

(b) whether some special schemes for treatment of the poor at these places are operational by Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKALAKSHMI): (a) to (c)The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Hosue.

Proper services **from PHCs**

871. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) how many P.H.C.s (Primary Health Centres) have been set-up all over the country and what is being done to ensure the attendance of doctors and medical staff and supply of medicines at these centres;

(b) whether there is any mechanism to ensure proper operation of these centres in all the above aspects; and

(c) if so, the details of the mechanism thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) As on March, 2007, there are a total of 22370 Primary Health Centres functioning in the country. A Task Group constituted under the National Rural Health Mission under the chairmanship of Director General of health Services has recommended the following measures to ensure the services of doctors in rural areas.

— Increase in the age of retirement of doctors to 65 years preferably with posting near hometown;

— Decentralization of recruitment at district level;

— Walk-in-interview and contractual appointment of doctors;

— Enhancing the salary for posting in rural areas by one-third;

— Increasing the admission capacity in medical colleges for Anesthesia; .

— Reviving the Diploma Courses in Anesthesia;

— To start one year Certificate Course in Anesthesia for Medical Officers working in the system at present to be given by National Board of Examination.

— Recognition of five hundred bedded Hospitals to provide the facility for conducting the above course;

t Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.